

H. Res. 476

In the House of Representatives, U.S.,

December 15, 2000.

Whereas in 1901, in the Act popularly known as the Army Reorganization Act, the Congress established the Army Nurse Corps as a permanent corps of the Medical Department of the Army;

Whereas 2001 is the centennial of the Army Nurse Corps;

Whereas the law establishing the Army Nurse Corps designated it as a female unit;

Whereas men, whatever their qualifications or accomplishments, could not enter the Army Nurse Corps because of its designation as a female unit;

Whereas more than 59,000 women bravely served in the Army Nurse Corps during World War II, and more than 5,000 woman served during the Korean War;

Whereas some male nurses who might have served in the Army in officer grades instead, due to the exclusion of males from the Army Nurse Corps, served in enlisted grades as Army hospital corpsmen in World War II and the Korean War;

Whereas male nurses expressed concern about this situation to the Surgeon General, their congressional representatives, and newspapers;

Whereas the Congress opened the Army Nurse Corps to males in August 1955, thereby allowing male nurses in the Army to be commissioned as officers, and the Army Nurse Corps became the first gender integrated corps in the Army that year;

Whereas today the Army Nurse Corps is open to both men and women; and

Whereas men and women have bravely served in the Army Nurse Corps in Vietnam, Desert Storm, and other military engagements since 1955: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) commends the present Army Nurse Corps for extending equal opportunities to men and women; and

(2) recognizes the brave and honorable service during and before 1955 of—

(A) men who served as Army hospital corpsmen; and

(B) women who served in the Army Nurse Corps.

Attest:

Clerk.